

AVIAN/PANDEMIC FLU NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL AVIAN INFLUENZA NEWSLETTER OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



FLU:Pandemic/Bird
Plan. Prepare. Protect.
County of San Diego

www.sdbirdflu.org

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Avian Influenza: Current Global Situation Update

AVIAN INFLUENZA CASES IN HUMANS

Since January 2004, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported human cases of Avian Influenza A/ (H5N1) in more than twelve countries like Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Egypt, Djibouti, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Nigeria.

Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases of Avian Influenza A/ (H5N1) Reported to WHO through November 12, 2007. WHO only reports laboratory-confirmed cases.

- ◆ Total human cases of H5N1 (confirmed) = 335
- ◆ Total human deaths from H5N1= 206

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/country/cases_table_2007_11_12/en/index.html

Currently, there are no reported human OR animal cases of the highly pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) in United States.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases
- New strain of cold virus kills 10 in US (Page 2)
- Passengers on board an aircraft from Korea were quarantined (Page 3)

World Health Organization (WHO)

Indonesia - November 12, 2007

The Ministry of Health has announced a new case of human infection of H5N1 avian influenza. A 31-year-old male from the Riau Province developed symptoms on October 31st, was hospitalized on November 3rd and died in an Avian Influenza referral hospital on November 6th. Identification of the source of his infection is ongoing and includes investigation into a large swallow farm in close proximity to the case's house.

Of the 113 cases confirmed to date in Indonesia, 91 have been fatal.

http://www.who.int/csr/don/2007_11_12/en/index.html

AVIAN INFLUENZA CASES IN POULTRY AND WILD BIRDS

The Poultry Site.com

Bird Flu In South Korea Is Non-Deadly H7 Strain - November 27, 2007

South Korea - The Agriculture Ministry of South Korea confirmed on Saturday 24th November that the latest outbreak of bird flu among farmed ducks was of the non-deadly H7 strain, and not the deadly H5N1 strain that is fatal to humans. There is no evidence that H7 affects humans.

Kuwait prepared for bird flu - November 26, 2007

KUWAIT - In response to the discovery last week of bird flu cases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait has banned imports of Saudi birds and eggs. Meanwhile, survey teams dispatched by the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources are closely monitoring Kuwait's farm areas and are testing birds for the flu.

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AVIAN INFLUENZA CASES IN POULTRY AND WILD BIRDS (Cont.)

The Poultry Site.com

[Little Egret tests positive for H5N1 in Hong Kong](#) - November 24, 2007

HONG KONG - The HK government has confirmed that a sick egret recently discovered in Hong Kong has tested positive for the virulent H5N1 strain of bird flu. The bird, which was found in a park, was confirmed to have had avian influenza virus after laboratory tests were conducted a spokesman for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) said. The spokesman said there were no chicken farms within 3 kilometers of where the bird was found.



[Chickens die en masse in S Vietnam](#) - November 23, 2007

HANOI - Chickens in Vietnam's southern Tien Giang province have recently died en masse with unidentified causes, while bird flu is hitting three provinces in the northern and central regions.

For more information on these and other articles please go to <http://www.thepoultrysite.com/bird-flu/bird-flu-news.php>

NATIONAL NEWS

Powerful new strain of cold virus kills 10

[Latimes.com](#) - November 16, 2007

A virulent new form of a common cold virus has killed 10 people and hospitalized at least 53 since May 2006, the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported Thursday.

The adenovirus serotype 14 virus has sickened more than 360 people in Texas, Oregon, Washington and New York, the report said.

One of the largest outbreaks occurred at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, where 106 soldiers were infected and one died. "Adenoviruses have been known to cause severe disease in the very young and the very old and people with medical problems," said a coauthor, Dr. John Su, a CDC infectious diseases investigator. "What brought this to our attention is that it can cause severe respiratory diseases in otherwise healthy adults."

Researchers did not know what caused the virus to mutate or what sparked the outbreaks.

Adenoviruses come in 51 distinct types, causing a range of illnesses that include pink eye, bronchitis and gastrointestinal problems. There is no drug specifically designed for adenovirus infections, but most infections resolve on their own.

Adenovirus 14 tends to cause colds or respiratory illnesses and can be spread by contaminated surfaces and through air in a cough or sneeze, Su said.

It caused respiratory disease among military recruits in the Netherlands in 1955 but has only been detected sporadically since.

The strain of adenovirus 14 involved in the recent outbreaks is genetically distinct from the 1955 strain, Su said.

The largest outbreaks occurred at four Air Force bases in Texas.

To read more about this article go to: <http://www.latimes.com/news/science/la-sci-virus16nov16,0,2107580.story?coll=la-home-center>

LOCAL AND STATE NEWS



Local News/ Outreach

Activities related to Pandemic Influenza education in the regions continue with more than 128,505 educational material distributed to various community locations. In addition, a total of 140 presentations have been provided to staff and community residents.

State/ Federal News

No new updates at this time.

PANDEMIC/ AVIAN FLU IN THE MEDIA

Cold Flu Report - CNN.com

November 2007

Includes Pandemic and Avian Flu information as well as prevention for cold and flu.

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2007/cold.flu/>

VOA news.com - November 13, 2007



Authorities in Britain have ordered the culling of thousand of turkeys and other birds at a farm northeast of London where a deadly strain of avian flu has been detected. For VOA, Tom Rivers reports from the British capital.

Having successfully dealt with a previous outbreak in February, Britain is again coping with bird flu and as British government lab results now show, it is the deadly form of the virus, H5 N1.

That was confirmed Tuesday by the country's deputy chief veterinary officer Fred Landeg.

"It is of the Asian lineage and it is closely related to strains of highly pathogenic avian influenza found this summer in the Czech republic and in Germany," he said. A three-kilometer protection zone rings the poultry farm in eastern England where this outbreak has occurred and beyond that, a ten-kilometer surveillance zone encircles the area in northern Suffolk country.

On that farm itself, Landeg says culling is underway.

<http://www.voanews.com/2007-11-13.cfm>

VOA news.com - November 14, 2007

British authorities battling the spread of bird flu virus say they are destroying poultry at four more sites in eastern England as a precautionary effort to deal with the outbreak.

Authorities say poultry has been identified as having close contact with people who visited a free-range turkey farm northeast of London, where the virus was discovered earlier this week.

<http://www.voanews.com/2007-11-14.cfm>

nzherald.co.nz - November 15, 2007

A passenger who sparked an avian flu scare at Auckland Airport today was instead likely to be suffering from gastroenteritis, health officials have said.

This morning 223 passengers on board an aircraft from Korea were quarantined by St John

Ambulance staff after a passenger was reported as having symptoms that indicated possible avian flu.

An Auckland Airport spokesperson said airline staff onboard the plane had alerted ground staff, setting in motion the airport's response.

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/1/story.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10475808

CIDRAP News.com

November 16, 2007

An analysis of influenza viruses collected from North American migratory birds over a 6-year period suggests that wild birds rarely carry avian flu viruses between Eurasia and North America, implying that the risk of the deadly H5N1 virus reaching the Americas by that route is probably low.



Avian Flu Virus

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/nov1607birds.html>

Telegraph.co.uk - November 17, 2007

The handling of the bird flu outbreak has come under fire as it emerged that vaccinations for poultry workers will not be completed for another two months.

The workers in Suffolk, where the virus has been found in turkeys, have been offered anti-viral drugs in case they contract avian flu. But they should also have been vaccinated against human flu because officials fear that the two viruses could mix if caught by one person at the same time, and this could spark a pandemic. Yet few poultry workers have so far received jabs, even though the flu season can begin as early as October.

Suffolk Primary Care Trust, which covers the infected farm, said it expected to have vaccinated the workers by January. But Dr Graeme Laver, an influenza virologist, said: "January is far too late."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/11/17/nflu117.xml>

AGIPnews.com - November 18, 2007

At the request of the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has offered its expertise and technical input on patent issues as they relate to influenza viruses and their genes, a press release by WIPO stated.

A technical WIPO report on this question will serve as one input to WHO's Intergovernmental Meeting on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness: *Sharing of Influenza Viruses and Access to Vaccines and other Benefits*, which will meet in Geneva from November 20-23, 2007.

<http://www.ag-ip-news.com>

Resources

- **County Vector Control Program's (888) 551-INFO (4636)** for info on how to protect birds, or to report dead birds.
- **HHSA's Avian and Pandemic Flu Info Line (619) 515-6900** for info regarding avian and pandemic flu.
- Educational materials are available for public distribution and are also downloadable from the county website: www.sdbirdflu.org or www.sdpandemicflu.org. Click on "Pandemic Flu".
- National Geographic International Edition: www.nationalgeographic.com
- World Health Organization (WHO): www.who.int
- Federal Dept. of Health & Human Services: www.pandemicflu.gov
- Federal CDC site: www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic
- State of California: www.dhs.ca.gov
- County of San Diego: www.sdbirdflu.org
- The Poultry Site: www.thepoultrysite.com



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